

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Department of Agriculture

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Bill Ritter, Governor
John R. Stulp, Commissioner

July 16, 2008

Dear Respected Industry Member:

The revised Colorado Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act was signed on May 29, 2008 and will go into effect August 6, 2008. The Colorado Department of Agriculture is proposing the adoption of new fertilizer rules to address the changes in the law and to add minimum specifications for compost.

The proposed rules are designed to:

- Establish dates for the registration of fertilizer products and manufacturing facilities
- Establish the due date for distribution (tonnage) reports
- Establish minimum standards and labeling requirements for compost
- Establish the level of concentration of certain metals that would deem fertilizer to be adulterated
- Establish the level of concentration of certain metals and pathogens that would deem compost to be adulterated
- Update sampling and laboratory methods
- Update rules and cleanup of outdated language

Enclosed for your review are two drafts of the proposed rules:

- The original draft with strikeouts and new language
- A draft of the rules without strikeouts

The time frame for this process is as follows:

- Draft rule submitted for publication– August 15, 2008
- Notice of rulemaking and proposed rule published by Secretary of State– September 10, 2008
- Rulemaking hearing – Oct 1-3, 2008
- Ag Commission Recommendation – October 14, 2008
- Final Rule effective - November 30, 2008

Your comments are crucial to this process. Please send them to me via mail, fax, or e-mail (pat.johnson@ag.state.co.us) by Friday, August 1, 2008. Feel free to contact me at (303) 867-9204 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Pat Johnson
Fertilizer Program Administrator
Enclosure